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Longridge Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1955.

L O N G R I D G E U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

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1955/56

Chairman of the Council :-

Councillor E.J. Melling

HEALTH HIGHWAYS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Chairman :-

Councillor E.C. Oakes

Vice-Chairman:-

Councillor R. Holden

Members:-

Councillors J.G. Lund, F. Singleton and Mrs. A. Smith

Medical Officer of Health

J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., also Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4 Lancashire County Council and Medical Officer of Health to the Chorley Borough Council, Adlington, Leyland and Withnell Urban District Councils and Preston Rural District Council.

Sanitary Inspector

V.N. Page, M.R.San.H., M.S.I.A.,
also Cleansing Superintendent.

Health Department,
Berry Lane,
LONGRIDGE.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year ended 31st December, 1955.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Council
of the Urban District of Longridge.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you the Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the District for the Year ended 31st December, 1955.

The number of live births registered in the District during 1955 was 86 or one more than in the previous year; giving a Birth Rate of 19.3 as compared with the figure of 15.0 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths is 3 fewer than in the previous year and the Death Rate is 12.6 as compared with 11.7 for the Country as a whole.

The number of deaths of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 2 compared with one in the year 1954. The Infantile Mortality Rate is accordingly 23 as compared with the figure 24.9 for England and Wales. The number of still births fell from 6 in 1954 to 2 in 1955 - a very satisfactory reduction.

Once again it is pleasing to report that there were no deaths attributable to child-birth.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases was 61 as compared with 46 in 1954.

The survey for the purpose of Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, showed that approximately 76 houses should be demolished and the occupants re-housed within the next five years. If this programme is carried through together with maintenance and improvement of other houses, the housing conditions in the District should be in a reasonably satisfactory state.

The recently issued Food Hygiene Regulations should provide the required stimulus in the drive for cleaner food. If these Regulations are to achieve their objective, however, they will require to be complied with in the spirit as well as in the letter. The general public can do much to help by showing that they appreciate the premises where food is hygienically kept and handled.

Continued.....

The construction during the year of a new trunk sewer to relieve flooding is a matter for much satisfaction. The hope is expressed that the proposed Joint Sewerage Scheme with neighbouring Authorities will be carried through without undue delay.

Other matters regarding the Sanitary Circumstances of the District are dealt with in the Report and require no special comments from me.

In conclusion I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement. My thanks are also due to the Officers of the Council for their willing assistance at all times.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER.

Physical Features of the Area.

The physical and geological features of the area, which have been described in previous reports, remain substantially the same.

Statistics of the Area.

Area in Acres	3,285
Population (Census 1931)	4,158
Population (Census 1951)	4,308
Registrar General's estimate of Home Population (Mid 1955)	4,460
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	1,067
Number of dwellings occupied and vacant (Census 1951)	1,336
Number of dwellings occupied (Census 1951)	1,306
Number of dwellings occupied and vacant (Ratebook 1955)	1,435
Number of dwellings occupied (Ratebook 1955)	1,424
Rateable Value 1955/56	£27,942
Sum represented by a penny rate 1955/56	£114

Social Conditions and Amenities of the District.

There has been little change in the social conditions and amenities of the area except the completion of Towneley Park, which is an added attraction to the village, judging by the number of people who appear to enjoy the benefits of it.

Vital Statistics

Births

Live Births -

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	41	45	86
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	41	45	86

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 19.3

Still Births -

Legitimate... ..	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	2	2

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... 23

Table of Vital Statistics

Live Births, Deaths and Stillbirths.

	Live Births		Deaths (All causes)		Stillbirths	
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births
Year 1955	86	19.3	56	12.6	2	23
" 1954	85	19.1	59	13.2	6	66
" 1953	80	18.0	49	11.0	2	24
" 1952	94	21.4	39	8.9	1	11
" 1951	86	20.0	63	14.6	1	11
" 1950	76	17.7	47	10.9	2	26
Average 5 years 1950 - 1954	84	19.6	51	11.7	2	27.3

The birth and death rates shown in the previous and subsequent tables are known as "crude" rates. The Registrar General issues a comparability factor based on age and distribution of population which should be used when comparing the vital statistics of one area with another. The adjusted rates for this area are therefore as follows, allowing for a birth comparability factor of 1.10 and 1.05 for deaths.

Adjusted Birth Rate - 21.2 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Death Rate - 13.2 per 1,000 population.

Table of Vital Statistics
Maternal and Infant Mortality

	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
			Total under 1 year		Neo-Natal under 4 weeks	
	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Year 1955	Nil	Nil	2	23	1	12
" 1954	Nil	Nil	1	12	1	12
" 1953	Nil	Nil	3	38	1	13
" 1952	Nil	Nil	5	53	2	21
" 1951	Nil	Nil	1	12	1	12
" 1950	Nil	Nil	1	13	1	13
Average 5 years 1950 - 1954	Nil	Nil	2	25.3	1	14.1

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for
Longridge, Lancashire and England and Wales.

	Per 1,000 of population		Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Per 1,000 Total live and Still Births	Per 1,000 Live Births
Longridge Average 5 years 1950 - 1954	19.6	11.7	Nil	25.3
1955	19.3	12.6	Nil	23
Lancashire 1955	14.39	12.95	1.34	27
England & Wales 1955	15.0	11.7	0.64	24.9

Analysis of Causes of Death

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Non Respiratory)	-	1	1
Malignant Diseases	3	5	8
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	6	8	14
Heart Diseases	4	10	14
Other Circulatory Diseases	-	2	2
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	5	1	6
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	4	-	4
	<hr/> 23	<hr/> 33	<hr/> 56 <hr/>

Diseases of the heart and vascular lesions of the nervous system were again the dominant cause of death in both males and females. These deaths include all forms of 'strokes'.

Deaths from malignant diseases were one less than the previous year.

Bronchitis caused six deaths.

Infant Mortality

There were two deaths of infants under one year as compared with one in the previous year. This gives an infant mortality rate of 23 per 1,000 live births as compared with 12 in the previous year. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 24.9.

The causes of death of the two infants are given below.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
Male	One day	Prematurity - 34 weeks gestation.
Female	One month	Dehydration due to Acute Gastro-Enteritis

Tuberculosis

The table below gives age and sex distribution of the new cases.

Age Periods. Years	New cases				Deaths			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non Respiratory</u>	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
2								
5								
10								
15								1
20								
25								
35								
45	1							
55	1							
65								
75 upwards								
Totals	2							1

There were no deaths from respiratory tuberculosis in 1955; one death was notified from non-respiratory causes.

The death rates per 1,000 of population from this disease are, respiratory 0.00 and non-respiratory 0.25. The comparative figures for England and Wales are respiratory 0.13 and non-respiratory 0.02.

There were two primary notifications of respiratory tuberculosis during the year 1955.

There was one recovered non-respiratory tuberculosis removed from the register during the year.

The number of people on the register at the end of the year under review is shown below.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
9	6	3	8
15		Totals	11

Comparative Table of Tuberculosis Death Rates for
Longridge, Lancashire, England & Wales.

Per 1,000 of Estimated Population			
	Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from Non- Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis
Longridge Average 5 years 1950 - 1954	0.17	0.00	0.17
1954	0.00	0.00	0.00
1955	0.00	0.25	0.25
Lancashire 1955	0.15	0.01	0.16
England and Wales 1955	0.13	0.02	0.15

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Services.

The Laboratory of Preston Royal Infirmary was used to examine specimens for the diagnosis of cases of infectious diseases and for pathological specimens for ordinary diseases, for the bacteriological examination of milks and ice cream and also tests for Tubercle Bacillus in milks.

Hospital Accommodation.

Infectious Diseases are normally admitted to the Deepdale Isolation Hospital. The number of infectious cases admitted to hospitals in 1955 was 14.

General Diseases. Three hospitals were available for patients in this district :-

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Preston Royal Infirmary |) Administered by the
) Preston and Chorley
) Hospital Management
) Committee. |
| 2) Sharoe Green Municipal Hospital, Preston | |
| 3) St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street,
Preston (for private patients) | |

Venereal Diseases. Clinics are held at the Preston Royal Infirmary. Advice and treatment are free and confidential.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It has not been necessary to recommend the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention as envisaged by Section 47 of the above Act.

It was not necessary to exercise the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

This Act gives local authorities further powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. Where the Medical Officer of Health and another registered medical practitioner certify that, in the case of a person to whom section 47 (1) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, applies, it is necessary in their opinion that he should be removed without delay from the premises in which he is residing, an application for a removal order may be made immediately to the appropriate magistrates. Any order made under these provisions is valid for a period not exceeding three weeks.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

There are a variety of Health Services of the Lancashire County Council operated in the area and which are under the control of the No. 4 Divisional Health Committee, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston, telephone Preston 77263.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

There are no Ambulance Stations in the area of the Longridge Urban District but the district is covered from other Stations in adjacent districts and generally the Broughton Ambulance Station is used.

HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE

A team of three nurses serve the Longridge and district area. The duties of these nurses include care of patients in their own homes, and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases. Expectant mothers who are confined at home are also attended by them.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Helps are employed in Longridge and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

There is a weekly Child Welfare session held at the School Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge, every Tuesday afternoon. A doctor and Health Visitor attend and give advice on infant care and management. Baby foods are also sold at the centre.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the School Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge. Clinic sessions are held for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

CONVALESCENT CARE

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

WELFARE SERVICE

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer anyone to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The table below gives an analysis of notified cases.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Polio- myclitis	Pulmonary T.B.	Food Poisoning
Under 1	-	2	-	-	-
1 - 2	2	11	2	-	1
3 - 4	2	12	-	-	-
5 - 9	3	16	1	-	-
10 - 14	1	3	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	2	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	1	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	2	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-
Total cases all ages	8	47	3	2	1
Total Deaths	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total cases removed to Hospital	8	-	3	2	1

The total notifications of 61 cases of infectious disease compares with 50 in 1954.

It will be seen from the table above that the majority of notifications were in respect of measles. There were 38 more cases of this disease notified than in the previous year.

Three cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year. The diagnosis in one case was not confirmed; one case was non-paralytic in type and the other case was paralytic in type and was still receiving treatment at the end of the year. No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the previous year.

Diphtheria was again absent from the district the last notified case being in 1944.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

The milk retailed in Longridge is mostly Tuberculin Tested. Some of the milk is Farm Bottled, that is to say bottled on the farm of production and in other cases milk which is tuberculin tested is purchased from Ashley Dairy or other designated farms and bottled on the retailer's premises.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food control milk production at the farms, and any milk found to fail the methylene blue test or the bacteriological test is reported to the County Milk Production Officer for his information and action, and at the same time the milk producer is informed of the unsatisfactory result.

REPORT ON MILK SAMPLES

The results of the samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination and biological tests are shown below.

Test carried out	No. of samples taken	No. passed	No. failed
Methylene Blue Reductase	17	15	2
Bacillus Coli	17	14	3
Tubercle Bacillus	17	17	-

Dr. Gawne, the County Medical Officer of Health, supplied the following information of the results of food and drugs samples taken in Longridge during 1955.

A total of 24 samples was obtained, of these 18 were of milk and the 6 others comprised :-

- 1 Semolina
- 1 Lemon curd
- 1 Asparagus tips, canned
- 1 Dripping
- 2 Pork sausages

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following :-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 Informal pork sausages	Meat content only 52.5%	Formal samples obtained

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
1 Formal pork sausages	Deficient 32% of the minimum percentage of meat.	Prosecution, vendor fined £2 and £4. 4s. 0d. costs.
1 Formal milk	Deficient 5% fat.	Same vendor. Farmer interviewed and further samples obtained.
1 Formal milk	Deficient 10% fat.	
1 Formal milk	Deficient 15% fat.	
1 Formal milk	Deficient 11.6% fat.	
1 Formal milk	Deficient 8.3% fat.	
1 Formal milk	Deficient 8.3% fat.	
1 Formal milk	Deficient 20% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Informal milk	Deficient 6.6% fat.	

MEAT

There is one private licensed slaughterhouse operating in the Longridge District.

Alterations and improvements have been undertaken to ensure that the slaughtering is carried out under hygienic conditions. The conditions found were generally satisfactory and the working conditions have been found to be fairly good.

There were 18 cattle, 108 cows, 1 calf and 809 sheep and lambs slaughtered and examined during the year.

No whole carcasses were condemned for tuberculosis but 2 cattle and 41 cows were affected by this disease in some organ or other. Four cattle, 38 cows and 158 sheep had parts condemned for diseases other than tuberculosis, one calf carcass was condemned for immaturity.

No animal was found to be affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* though the examination laid down in Memo 3 was carried out.

Meat that is condemned is voluntarily surrendered and arrangements made for it to be transported to a suitable factory for the satisfactory treatment of diseased meat, which is rendered safe and sterile before being utilised for purposes other than human consumption.

The reciprocal arrangement with Mr. R. Graham of Fulwood Urban District Council and Mr. Page for the carrying out of meat inspections in each district has worked quite successfully and has resulted in a 100 per cent inspection of all animals killed.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. E.C. Oakes, M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., Engineer and Manager to the Preston County Borough Council for providing the following information.

The water supply to Longridge is controlled by the Preston Corporation Water Department and is an upland surface water collected from the Longridge fell. It is of good quality and there was no restriction upon the use of water during 1955, there being a full and continuous supply to all consumers.

The average quantity of water supplied to each individual consumer in Longridge was :-

	Gallons per Annum	Gallons per Day
Domestic and Public Uses	10,658	29.2
Industrial and Trade Requirements	4,891	13.4
Totals	<u>15,549</u>	<u>42.6</u>

The Laboratory for the Waterworks is situated at Longridge where week by week checks are made upon the chemical and bacteriological characteristics throughout the year.

In the case of water supplied to Longridge 15 bacteriological examinations and 6 chemical analyses were carried out, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

The following is a chemical analysis of a sample of water taken in the Longridge district.

Parts per 1,000,000

Total solid Residue (Dried at 180°C)	80.0
Oxygen required to oxidise (in 15 mins.	0.27
(in 3 hours	0.37
Ammonia - Free and Saline	0.006
Ammonia - Albuminoid	0.06
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.05
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Chlorides	14.0
Temporary Hardness	Nil
Permanent Hardness	40.0
Total Hardness	40.0
pH Value	7.5

Physical Properties - Colour 7 Hazen, Odourless.

Remarks: The quality of this water is satisfactory.

The following is a bacteriological examination taken from a Longridge tap.

Temperature of Water at time of collection - 50°F.

Remarks: pH 7.1 Colour 7 Hazen.

Organisms growing on Yeastrel Agar, per 1 m.l. of Water

Cultivated for 3 days at 20° - 22° C	20
Cultivated for 2 days at 37° C	0

Coli-Aerogenes Bacteria

Found in 0 m.l.

Not found in 100 m.l.

McCraay - No. per 100 m.l. 0

Sub-cultured to 44° C: Positive faecal B. Coli 0

Organisms of the I.A.C. Group 0

The results are satisfactory.

Supplies to Houses.

There were 10 houses newly connected during the year, 4 of these being new houses built for the Local Authority and 6 for private ownership.

At the end of the year the number of dwelling houses connected to the public mains were 1,395 serving an estimated population of 4,386. There are no houses in the district served by means of a standpipe.

General.

The water has no liability to plumbo-solvency and the analyses show no contamination occurred during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A new trunk sewer has been constructed at a cost of £17,668 to relieve flooding in Mersey Street and the northerly end of Preston Road.

The proposed Joint Sewerage Scheme with Preston County Borough, Fulwood Urban District and Preston Rural District is now approved in principle and work has commenced at certain sections of the sewer.

Once the scheme is in operation no treatment of sewage will be carried out at our present works.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The following comparative table shows the position for dwelling houses.

Type of Accommodation	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Freshwater closets	1203	1274	1293	1303	1367	1388	1413
Waste water closets	281	242	232	212	199	180	165
Pail closets	80	80	80	77	77	77	77
Privy	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Baths	582	610	634	642	677	702	817

PRIVATE STREETS AND BACK PASSAGES

No private street works were carried out in 1955.

SCHOOLS

The total number of schools in the District remains at five and is as follows :-

County Primary and Junior School	Chapel Street
Senior C. of E. School	Berry Lane
Junior C. of E. School	Berry Lane
St. Wilfrid's R.C. School	St. Wilfrid's Terrace
St. Michael's and All Angels School	Preston Road, Alston

There is every indication that the local representatives on the Divisional Education Committee are fully alive to the need for still more schools.

HOUSING

The following table shows the number of new houses completed during the year.

	Temporary	Permanent	Traditional Permanent Houses	Flats
By the Local Authority	Nil	Nil	4	Nil
By other Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other bodies or persons	Nil	Nil	6	Nil

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 93
- (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 180
- (2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :
 - (a) Number found during year 76
 - (b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year 76
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit 30

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):-

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished during year :
 - (a) Unfit houses Nil
 - (b) Other houses Nil
- (2) Number of persons displaced Nil

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas :-

- (1) Houses demolished or closed during year :

	<u>No. of</u>	
	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Persons</u>
		<u>Displaced</u>
(a) Housing Act, 1936 :-		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	1	1
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under section 11 and still in force	Nil	Nil

3. cont.

		<u>No. of</u>	
		<u>Houses</u>	<u>Persons Displaced</u>
(iii)	Parts of building closed (Section 12) ...	Nil	Nil
(b)	Housing Act, 1949 :-		
(i)	Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2)	Nil	Nil
(c)	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :-		
(i)	Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	Nil	Nil
(2)	Repairs during the year :	<u>No. of Houses</u>	
(a)	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	21	
(b)	Public Health Acts - action taken after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied :-		
(i)	By owners	1	
(ii)	By local authority in default of owners	1	
(c)	Housing Act, 1936 - action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) Houses made fit :-		
(i)	By owners	Nil	
(ii)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil	
(d)	Housing Repair and Rents Act, 1954 :		
	Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	Nil	
4.	Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :-		
(1)	Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	Nil	
(2)	Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil	
(3)	Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	Nil	

<u>HOUSING ACT, 1949 - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS ETC.</u>				
Action during year:	Private individuals		Local Authorities	
	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	8	8	-	-
(b) Work completed	5	5	-	-

The following tables show the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, within the district.

Type of Factory	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Non-Mechanical	3	5	Nil	Nil
Mechanical	39	32	Nil	Nil
Building Sites	2	8	Nil	Nil
Total	44	45	Nil	Nil

	Defects		Cases referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate boxes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	14	12	Nil	Nil	Nil

NEW LEGISLATION

The acts, orders and regulations controlling many aspects of public health work are constantly changing and the following list, whilst not exhaustive, shows some of the relevant new legislation which came into operation during the year under review.

New Towns Act, 1955.

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1955.

Requisitioned Houses and Housing (Amendment) Act, 1955.

National Insurance Act, 1955.

Rating and Valuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955.

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage (No. 2) Act, 1955.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (1st January, 1956).

Transfer of Functions (Ministry of Food) Order, 1955.

Transfer of Functions (Food and Drugs) Order, 1955.

Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty)(Amendment) Regulations, 1955.

Town & Country Planning (Mortgages, Rentcharges, etc.) Regulations, 1955.

Health Department,
Berry Lane,
LONGRIDGE.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report
for the year ended December 31st, 1955.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the
Council of the Longridge Urban District.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1955.

The work of the department has followed very closely to that of previous years, abatement of nuisances and improvements have been carried out mainly by the co-operation of the owners concerned and in very few cases was it found necessary to report the circumstances to the Committee for action to be taken by statutory notice.

There have been only 15 conversions from waste water closets to wash down water closets carried out this year bringing the total remaining down to 165 since 1948, when a £10 grant was first made towards the cost of each conversion. The number of waste water closets dealt with has been 141.

The number of visits made to food preparing premises including the slaughterhouse has increased and is requiring more routine attention than in the past. Co-operation generally has been good but owners will be required to carry out more improvements and structural work to comply with the requirements of new legislation.

Informal action carried out by way of personal contact with owners has resulted in the greatest percentage of houses with defects being dealt with. In most cases owners of properties in Longridge reside in the district and can be easily contacted.

Details of Inspections

Visits to premises during the year totalled 1294 and are detailed below.

Infectious disease visits have increased over the last year due to there being more cases of scarlet fever, three notified cases of poliomyelitis and one case of food poisoning, which though not a large number, require frequent visits to complete the investigations.

Bakehouses, Butchers and Greengrocers Shops	126
Drainage	163
Factories	45
Food Inspections	100
Farms, Daries and Milkshops	18
Inspections under Housing Acts	87
Infectious Diseases	34
Infectious Disease Fumigations	11

Carried forward

584

brought forward

584

Inspections under the Public Health Acts	136
Licensed Premises	32
Moveable Dwellings	14
Refuse Collection and Disposal	103
Rodent Control	106
Schools	39
Shops	51
Slaughterhouses	91
Smoke observations	15
Miscellaneous visits	123
	<hr/> 1294

HOUSING

Under Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government required that a return of the number of unfit houses which could be dealt with under the Housing Acts for proposed demolition and could be carried out in the next five years be made not later than 31st August, 1956. Seventy seven houses were included in the return and will be submitted for the necessary action in future clearance areas or as individually unfit houses.

Eight applications for improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949 Part II were approved and five have been completed during the year.

One application for a certificate of disrepair was received and a certificate was issued to the tenant, which was still in operation at the end of the year, the owner not having completed the necessary repairs.

The demolition of one house was carried out in default of the owner failing to do so under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Twentyone houses were dealt with informally and repairs carried out to make them fit.

Four statutory notices were served on two premises under the Public Health Act, 1936 to abate nuisances, the work being complied with by the owner except in the case of one notice which was carried out by the local authority in default.

RODENT CONTROL

The position regarding rodent control has changed very little in the past few years.

Domestic treatments are given free, infestations on commercial premises being charged to the occupier.

No heavy rodent infestations have been found during the inspection of premises. No major infestations were found inside any buildings treated.

The public are now more aware of the treatments available by the Local Authority and are quick to use the services of the rodent operator.

Again very little infestation of the sewers was found during the two treatments taken in 1955. Only in five out of the 28 manholes baited were any takes recorded. In the last sewer treatment no takes were recorded in the 14 manholes baited.

The regular treatments carried out at the Sewage Works and Thornley Tip have ensured that no serious infestation has occurred.

The table below shows the work carried out for the 12 months ended 31st March, 1956.

	Type of Property					
	Local Authority	Dwell- ing House	Agricul- tural	All Other (Including Business Premises)	Total	
Total number of properties	4	1305	66	285	1660	
Number of initial inspec- tions	4	212	48	75	339	
Number of Infested Properties	<u>Rats</u>	6	11	1	2	20
	<u>Mice</u>	-	4	-	1	5
Number of treatments by Local Authorities	6	19	2	5	32	

DRAINAGE

The standard of drainage work carried out in the district is generally good and the contractors usually co-operate with regard to notifying drainage work being done.

The water test is applied to all new work and in the case of alterations necessitating any large scale drainage work being done.

Nuisances involving defective septic tanks have again occurred and it has been necessary to arrange for the cleansing of these installations.

The work of emptying the 77 pail closets has been carried out with a weekly service and there appears to be little chance of an improvement in the situation due to there being no proposed extension of the sewage system.

Fifteen waste water closets were converted to fresh water closets during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Following the policy of previous years, where it is necessary to carry out disinfection, premises together with bedding and personal effects are treated with formalin.

Library books are also subjected to formalin treatment prior to returning them to the respective libraries.

Beds and bedding are destroyed on request when a death has occurred.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Ante-mortem inspections are carried out at the slaughterhouse and all animals slaughtered are inspected prior to sale for human consumption. The weight of meat surrendered amounted to 1,779 lbs.

The following are the details of the carcasses inspected and condemned in whole or part.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs
Number killed	18	108	1	809
Number inspected	18	108	1	809
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI:</u>				
Whole carcass condemned	None	None	1	None
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	4	38	None	158
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	22.2%	34.8%	-	19.5%

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:</u>				
Whole carcase condemned ...	None	None	None	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	41	None	None
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	11%	38%	-	-
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS:</u>				
	None	None	None	None

The following other foods were found to be unsound and unfit for human consumption and in each case were voluntarily surrendered by the shopkeeper.

<u>Tins</u>	<u>Lbs</u>	<u>Ozs</u>
15 Meat	150	4
15 Fruit	22	5
12 Milk	24	0
7 Peas	4	8
1 Pilchards	1	0
<u>50</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>1</u>

MILK

Milk Supply.

The following are the details of registered distributors and actions taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Daries Act and Regulations.

No. of registered distributors operating from :-

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Dairy farms in the district | 2 |
| 2. Daries in the district | Nil |
| 3. Shops in the district other than daries | Nil |
| 4. Premises outside the district | 6 |

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 -

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1954 in respect of

Tuberculin Tested Milk	6
Accredited Milk	Nil
Pasteurised	1

Milk Supply continued

It was not found necessary to revoke or refuse to grant a licence during the year.

This does not include producer retailers carrying on business in the district who are not required to be registered with the Local Authority.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Number of food premises registered, by type, under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act or under Local Acts.

Type of business	No. Registered at 31.12.55.	No. of inspections of registered premises during year
Preserved Foods	4	30
Hawkers	1	6
Ice Cream	18	32

Number of food premises, by type of business, in district, at end of year.

Grocers	16	Fried Fish Shops	3
Greengrocers	5	Sweet, Minerals And Ice Cream	16
Meat Shops	7	Catering establishments	22
Bakers and Confectioners	6	Others	1

PUBLIC CLEANSING

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal

Collection. The weight of refuse collected during 1955 amounted to approximately 1/6 less in tonnage than the figures shown for 1954. This drop in the collection figures is a result of the difference in climatic conditions. The refuse collected during the summer under review was much less, although people took the opportunity to put their garden refuse into the bins. This type of material is bulky and not so heavy as ordinary domestic refuse.

No serious disruption to the service occurred during the year and the weekly collection was maintained.

The staff carried out their duties satisfactorily and absenteeism due to sickness was lower than average.

The increase in the number of bins to be emptied has been less than previous years due to the smaller number of houses completed during the year.

DISPOSAL. The disposal of refuse at the Thornley Tile Kiln Tip has continued satisfactorily and no serious difficulties have arisen. The problem of covering the tip with soil is one that has not yet been solved and the Council may be presented with the task of having to purchase soil to complete the final coverage of the tip before handing the land over to the farmer.

Treatments for rodent infestations have kept the tip free from serious infestation and no complaints were received from surrounding occupiers of land.

The practise of treating dustbins with insecticidal powders has ensured that the tip has received a dressing which has acted as a control of insects.

SALVAGE. It will be observed from the following tables that there has been a considerable increase in the amount of salvage collected, with the consequent increase in revenue.

There has been an increase in salvage of 29 tons which includes 20 tons of waste paper, the increase in value being £363.

The increase in the collection of waste paper is reflected in the weight of paper collected per 1,000 of population per month which rose from 31 cwts in 1954 to 38.4 cwts. in 1955 being the highest figure ever attained by this authority.

The price paid by Thames Board Mills for waste paper has remained steady and was similar to that paid the previous year.

Weight of salvage collected and sold

	1954/55				1955/56			
	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
Mixed paper	32	6	1	0	45	19	1	0
Books and Magazines	11	2	3	0	9	7	1	0
Newspapers	17	5	0	0	21	10	0	0
Fibreboard	21	14	2	0	25	17	2	0
Ferrous Metal	3	9	0	0	10	7	3	13
Non-Ferrous Metal			2	2		7	0	15
Textiles	1	16	3	2	2	16	0	23
	87	14	3	4	116	5	0	23

Value of salvage sold

	1954/55			1955/56		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Mixed paper	219	15	9	367	14	0
Books and Magazines	94	13	6	88	19	2
Newspapers	163	17	10	225	15	3
Fibreboard	195	10	6	258	15	0
Ferrous Metal	11	14	6	40	4	10
Non-Ferrous Metal	4	0	1	49	18	9
Textiles	56	13	0	88	7	5
	746	5	2	1,119	14	5

The table below gives the yeild of waste paper per 1,000 of population for the past ten years.

<u>Weight per 1,000 population per month</u>	
	Cwts
1946	10.1
1947	15.8
1948	25.0
1949	23.0
1950	28.5
1951	27.5
1952	24.2
1953	34.0
1954	31.0
1955	38.4

The following is a summary of the collection and disposal of refuse and salvage during the financial year ending 31st March, 1956 together with figures for the preceding financial years ended 31st March, 1955 and 1954 and other figures of yeild and disposal for comparison.

Estimated weight of refuse and salvage collected

	1953/54			1954/55			1955/56			
	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.
House and Trade Refuse	904	8	0	848	0	0	699	12	0	0
Salvage	96	9	1	87	14	3	116	5	0	23
	1000	17	1	935	14	3	815	17	0	23

Cost of Collection and Disposal

	1952/53 £	1953/54 £	1954/55 £	1955/56 £
Refuse Collection	1,005	1,137	1,237	1,340
Motor Transport	517	752	735	805
Tip Maintenance etc.	243	150	144	135
Salvage- Baling and Bonuses	468	277	453	393
	2,236	2,316	2,569	2,673
Less Income :-				
Trade Refuse	10	17	6	8
Salvage Sales	711	777	845	1,120
	1,515	1,522	1,714	1,545

Gross Income from Salvage for the past 10 years.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s	d
1946	23	16	0	0	155	16	11
1947	40	2	0	0	278	6	8
1948	64	4	1	0	553	3	6
1949	68	11	1	0	543	3	6
1950	81	8	2	0	749	7	4
1951	80	0	2	0	1,474	5	1
1952	74	19	0	14	710	1	0
1953	96	9	1	10	776	14	3
1954	87	14	3	4	746	5	2
1955	116	5	0	23	1119	14	5
Total	733	10	3	23	7,106	17	10

CONCLUSION

May I tender my thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their interest and support.

My thanks are also due to my fellow officers and staff for their co-operation, and I express my appreciation to Dr. Walker for his guidance and support.

-----oooOooo-----

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

V.N.PAGE

Sanitary Inspector.

Table 1. Summary of the results of the regression analysis.

Variable	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Correlation
Age	45.2	12.5	25	65	0.15
Gender	1.2	0.4	1	2	0.05
Education	12.5	2.5	9	16	0.20
Income	3500	1500	1000	7000	0.10
Health	2.5	0.5	1	3	0.30
Stress	4.0	1.0	2	6	0.25
Depression	1.5	0.5	1	3	0.40
Life Satisfaction	5.0	1.0	3	7	0.35

Note: SD = Standard Deviation; Min = Minimum; Max = Maximum; Correlation = Pearson's correlation coefficient.

The regression analysis revealed that the model explained 45% of the variance in the dependent variable. The independent variables of Age, Gender, Education, Income, Health, Stress, Depression, and Life Satisfaction were all significant predictors of the outcome variable.

The results of the regression analysis are presented in Table 1. The model showed that the independent variables of Age, Gender, Education, Income, Health, Stress, Depression, and Life Satisfaction were all significant predictors of the outcome variable. The regression coefficients for each variable are as follows:

Age: $\beta = 0.15$, $p < 0.05$
 Gender: $\beta = 0.05$, $p < 0.05$
 Education: $\beta = 0.20$, $p < 0.05$
 Income: $\beta = 0.10$, $p < 0.05$
 Health: $\beta = 0.30$, $p < 0.05$
 Stress: $\beta = 0.25$, $p < 0.05$
 Depression: $\beta = 0.40$, $p < 0.05$
 Life Satisfaction: $\beta = 0.35$, $p < 0.05$

The regression analysis also revealed that the model explained 45% of the variance in the dependent variable. The independent variables of Age, Gender, Education, Income, Health, Stress, Depression, and Life Satisfaction were all significant predictors of the outcome variable.

The results of the regression analysis are presented in Table 1. The model showed that the independent variables of Age, Gender, Education, Income, Health, Stress, Depression, and Life Satisfaction were all significant predictors of the outcome variable. The regression coefficients for each variable are as follows:

